

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 IO-13
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /120 W
-----061546 281438Z /41

R 280845Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8254
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
USUN NEW YORK 1123

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 1237

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV BG
SUBJECT: CHANGES IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND OVERSEAS MISSION
S

1. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL HARUNUR RASHID HAS AT LAST
BEEN ABLE TO DIVEST HIMSELF OF TWO SEGMENTS OF HIS
HEAVY PORTFOLIO. HARUN HAD FOR SOME TIME HELD BOTH THE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS
WHICH ARE IN MANY WAYS THE MOST IMPORTANT AREAS FOR MFA'S
ROLE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOR LEGAL, CONSULAR AND RESEARCH.

2. MFA HAD HIRED FROM THE BAR MUHAMMAD SOHRAD ALI, A BARRISTER
FROM LINCOLN'S INN WHO HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN A MEMBER OF BDG
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DELEGATIONS TO UN MEETINGS (ESPECIALLY LOS), AS DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR LEGAL, CONSULAR AND RESEARCH. IF USUN OR THE
LOS STAFF HAVE IMPRESSIONS OF HIS WORK, THE EMBASSY
WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THEM.

3. FAROUK SOBHAN HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM MOSCOW TO
BECOME DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,

WESTERN EUROPE, AMERICAS AND THE PACIFIC. THE LATTER TWO HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY UNDER HARUN SINCE MUHAMMED MOHSIN WAS TRANSFERRED TO LAGOS TO OPEN A HIGH COMMISSION THERE; WESTERN EUROPE WAS FOR THE SAME PERIOD UNDER THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA; INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS HAD BEEN DIRECTLY UNDER THE ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SECRETARY. SOBHAN, WHO WILL BE TECHNICALLY "ACTING" DG FOR SIX MONTHS PROBATION, IS THE YOUNGEST AT THIS RANK IN THE MINISTRY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS FROM MOSCOW ON HIS WORK THERE. HIS EARLIER POSTS BESIDE ISLAMABAD AND DACCA HAVE BEEN CAIRO, PARIS AND BELGRADE.

4. ALSO RETURNING TO A DIRECTOR GENERAL ASSIGNMENT IS MAHBUBUL HAQ FROM ABU DHABI. HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT IS TO BE EITHER ADMINISTRATION OR SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. BOTH SLOTS ARE NOW VACANT.

5. MFA OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TOLD THEY ARE PREPARED TO GIVE UP THE GHOST AS FAR AS MAINTAINING A MISSION IN LAGOS IS CONCERNED AND THAT MOHSIN IS TO BE RECALLED. HOUSING AND OTHER DIFFICULTIES HAVE DETERMINED THE MOVE. MOHSIN WILL BE POSTED ABROAD TO ANOTHER POST NOT YET DECIDED.

6. IT IS ALSO PLANNED TO DROP THE CHARGE POST IN BUENOS AIRES. THE ARGENTINES HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR CHARGE HERE, BUT, WE ARE TOLD, THIS ALONE IS NOT THE REASON AND CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT EXPENSE AND LACK OF BUSINESS GOVERNED.
BERGESEN

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Message Attributes

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